

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01

EB-11 /096 W

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R 190700Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8413

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 2304

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON (ASEAN) NZ

SUBJECT: VISIT OF NEW ZEALAND OFFICIALS TO ASEAN COUNTRIES

1. NEW ZEALAND MINISTER OF DEFENCE A J FAULKNER, CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF LT.GENERAL SIR RICHARD WEBB, AND SECRETARY OF DEFENCE JOHN ROBERTSON LEAVING WELLINGTON JULY 20 FOR A SIXTEEN DAY VISIT TO BANGKOK, JAKARTA, KUALA LUMPUR, MANILA AND SINGAPORE. PURPOSE OF VISIT, ACCORDING TO ROBERTSON, IS TO CHECK INTO CONDITIONS IN THE FIVE ASEAN COUNTRIES AND STATUS OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH EACH OTHER IN FACE OF CHANGES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE DURING PAST NINE TO TEN MONTHS. A SIMILAR VISIT WAS MADE ABOUT A YEAR AGO AND NEW ZEALAND IS INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT WHAT CHANGES HAVE OCCURED SINCE THAT TIME.

2. FOR MANILA: ROBERTSON REVEALED THAT MR. FAULKNER WILL TELL FILIPINO OFFICIALS THAT NEW ZEALAND IS PREPARING TO ESTABLISH AN EMBASSY IN MANILA UNDER A RESIDENT AMBASSADOR. NEW ZELAND HAD BEEN UNDER SOME PRESSURE FROM MANILA TO ESTABLISH AN EMBASSY AND WELLINGTON WILL PROCEED TO DO THIS
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MANILY BECUASE THE VALUE OF NEW ZEALAND EXPORTS TO THE

PHILIPPINES HAVE BEEN GROWING SO ENCOURAGINGLY AND SHOW
MUCH PROMISE FOR THE FUTURE.

3. COMMENT: THIS VISIT SHOULD BE SEEN IN LIGHT OF THE LABOUR
GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO EMPHASIZE AND BROADEN ITS CONTACTS
WITH PACIFIC COUNTRIES.
SELDEN

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NNN

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